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Stories on various anti-tobacco moves at the American Public Health Association's meeting, including an anti-tobacco resolution, appeared in many newspapers. Dr. Hockett spoke against the resolution when it was first brought up at a committee hearing and Mr. Richards issued a statement on it.

THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS
Washington, D.C.

Belief: Million Students Face Death by Lung Cancer Some Day Experts Urge 'Don't Smoke' Drive

By JOHN TROAN
Scripps-Howard Science Writer

ATLANTIC CITY, Oct. 20—More than a million U. S. school children are doomed to die of lung cancer in later life "if present trends continue," the American Public Health Association was warned here today.

The figure, reflecting the rising toll of lung cancer, was cited by a nine-man committee which urged the association to spark a nationwide "don't smoke" campaign — "especially among young people."

The American Cancer Society is gearing up to launch such a drive in high schools around Thanksgiving . . . but the committee recommended a broader campaign involving "Federal, state and local health authorities" as well.

EVIDENCE

The committee stated flatly that "scientific evidence has established cigaret smoking to be a major causative factor" in lung cancer.

But this claim was challenged by Dr. Robert C. Hockett, a New York chemist. He is associate director of the Tobacco Industry Research Committee.

Dr. Hockett said the committee statement "goes considerably beyond" what is justified by "really reliable

scientific information." He insisted nobody had yet proved smoking actually causes lung cancer.

Dr. Hockett argued it would be "dangerous" for the American Public Health Association, to endorse an anti-smoking drive because this would kill off the "careful, objective, analytical thinking that is still needed" in lung-cancer research.

DISAGREES

But the committee chairman, Dr. Lester Breslow of the California Health Department, disagreed. He said it has been "well established" that cigaret smoking is one of the chief causes of lung cancer.

Contending there is "also danger in not taking a position soon enough," Dr. Breslow indicated an anti-smoking campaign supported by the association could save some of the million school children destined to die of lung cancer "before they reach the age of 70" unless current trends are reversed.

The association's policy-making "governing council" is expected to vote Thursday on just what stand the health group should take on the "don't smoke" issue.

APEAL

Meanwhile, Dr. Roger S. Mitchell of the University of Colorado called on the tobacco industry "to admit the hazard" of cigaret smoking "and try to do something to eliminate" it.

He described as "wishful thinking" the suggestion of industry spokesmen that smokers might really be "different from non-smokers" and that the lung cancer may be linked to this mysterious difference.

In a talk last night, Dr. Mitchell said studies have shown cigaets are "one of the causes" of lung cancer.

Furthermore, he said, "prolonged cigaret smoking shortens average life expectancy by at least five years," "increases the risk of hardening of the arteries and chronic lung obstruction," probably "aggravates stomach ulcers, shortens the breath" and "may impair physical performance even in young people."

HERALD
Titusville, Pennsylvania
October 23, 1959

Urge Campaign Against Smoking by Children

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—The American Public Health Assn. estimated Thursday that more than a million American school children are presently doomed to die of lung cancer. It urged a campaign to discourage them from smoking cigarettes.

"Excessive smoking is a major factor in the disease, and public health officials of the United States and many other countries have pointed out the relationship between cigaret smoking and lung cancer," said the APHA in a resolution to its governing council.

With more than 13,500 members the association is the largest U.S. organization of public health specialists.

The resolution said lung cancer, if present trends continue, will claim the lives "of more than one million present school children in

this country before they reach the age of 70 years."

It urged a broad program of education to prevent cigarette smoking by young people. The American Cancer Society already has begun such programs in schools.

Lung cancer kills more than 25,000 Americans a year now.

In Washington, a spokesman for the tobacco industry called the resolution "obviously the result of another effort by the antismoking group to get other backing for its antitobacco campaign."

The spokesman, President James P. Richards of the Tobacco Institute, Inc., said the resolution "does not claim that a causative relationship exists between smoking and lung cancer and does not mention any other factors being investigated."